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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: T. Christian A. Schlumbrecht

SERIAL NO.: 10/667,106

GROUP ART UNIT: 3712

FILED: September 19, 2003

EXAMINER: Kurt Fernstrom

FOR: "CASINO FLOP POKER"

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: A03166US (98797.1)

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RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action dated July 13, 2004. A shortened statutory period was set to expire three months from the date of the Office Action, making a response due by October 13, 2004.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

- 1.(Currently Amended) A method of playing a card game comprising the steps of:
- a) requiring each player to place an ante wager to participate in a wagering game played against ~~the~~ a house/bank;
 - b) requiring each player to place an additional pot wager into a pot/pool; the pot constituting a communal wager or pool wherein the players compete not against the bank but against one another with the winner of the pot bets being the player holding the highest poker hand of five cards;
 - c) dealing a predetermined number of cards to each player face down;
 - d) dealing a predetermined number of communal cards face down;
 - e) based on the cards dealt in step "c" requiring each player to decide whether to place a flop wager to continue to participate in the wagering game played against the house/bank;
 - f) based on the cards dealt in steps "c" and "d" a comparison being made between each player's five card hand, such hand partly composed of individually dealt cards in conjunction with the communal cards, using poker rank both as the criterion for determining winning hands against the bank and for determining the winning hand regarding the pot bets;
 - g) for each player who placed a flop wager determining whether each such player has a winning hand against the house pay table and paying each winning player against the house even odds for the ante wager;
 - h) for each winning payer in step "g" with respect to each player's flop wager paying each winning player odds displayed by the house pay table depending upon the poker rank held by each winning player; and
 - i) awarding all pot wagers to the player holding the highest poker ranked hand.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined number of cards dealt to each player numbers three dealt face-down.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined number of communal cards consist of three dealt face-down
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined number of communal cards consist of two dealt face-down and one face-up.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined number of cards dealt to each

player numbers three, dealt face-down and wherein the number of communal cards consist of two, dealt face-down.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of the ante wager is predetermined by house rules.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the amount of the flop wager is predetermined by house rules.

8.(currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the amount of the pot ~~water~~ wager is predetermined by house rules. - -